

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3886

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PORG YO US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT OF CROATION REPUBLIC COMMENTS ON
SECRETARY'S JULY 14 SPEECH

DURING JULY 22 COURTESY CALL ON JAKOV BLAZEVIC, PRESIDENT, PRESIDENCY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, BLAZEVIC RAISED FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES INCLUDING SECRETARY'S SPEECH IN MILWAUKEE. HE INDICATED THAT THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH WAS IN THE NATURE OF A THREAT AND ALSO THAT HE AND OTHERS IN SENIOR POSITIONS IN GOY PERCEIVED SECRETARY KISSINGER AS MORE HARD-LINED ON UN ISSUES THAN PRESIDENT FORD. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT THE SECRETARY'S MILWAUKEE SPEECH REFLECTED A CANDID INDICATION OF HOW US POLITICAL SYSTEM WOULD RESPOND TO CONTINUED CONFRONTATION IN UN AND, AS SPEECH INDICATED, THE SECRETARY WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT A POTENTIAL AMERICAN DIMUNITION OF SUPPORT FOR THE UN WHICH WOULD JEOPARDIZE ITS IMPORTANT ROLE IN DEALING WITH VARIOUS WORLD PROBLEMS. THE AMBASSADOR FURTHER ASSURED BLAZEVIC THAT THE SECRETARY'S MILWAUKEE SPEECH REFLECTED THE CENTER OF GRAVITY IN THE USG. INDEED, IT WAS MORE CONCILIATORY THAN THE VIEWPOINT OF MANY CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON.

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